



Agricultural Energy Program

*A collaborative program of the
Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management
and the
Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources*

Agricultural Energy Program Grant Application Form for a Renewable Energy Project

Completed Application must be submitted via email to:

Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources – energy.resources@energy.ri.gov

For questions on this program, please contact:

Nathan Cleveland (OER)

Nathan.cleveland@energy.ri.gov

Applicant Eligibility Requirements

Eligible applicants include agricultural entities and operations that fulfill all of the following requirements:

- Agricultural entities must have a physical location located in Rhode Island with the ability to enter into a legal agreement with the State.
- The proposed clean energy investment must be implemented/installed at a Rhode Island-based location.
- The applicant must be considered an “Agricultural Operation.” Agricultural Operations include any commercial enterprise which has as its primary purpose: horticulture, viticulture, floriculture, forestry, stabling of horses, dairy farming, aquaculture, the raising of livestock (including for the production of fiber), furbearing animals, poultry, or bees.
 - Applicants may seek program eligibility from operations listed above by requesting and eligibility determination DEM’s Chief of Agriculture.
 - The mixed-use of farms and farmlands for other forms of enterprise is hereby recognized as a valuable and viable means of contributing to the preservation of agriculture.
- The Agricultural Operation must be able to demonstrate that it has produced at least \$2,500 in income from agricultural operation in the previous calendar year through tax documentation.
- The applicant must own the property or has otherwise received permission from the property owner on which the proposed project will be implemented.
- The Agricultural Operation must have received a general energy efficiency audit or commit to scheduling an energy efficiency audit prior to funds being awarded.¹ In the event the completion of an energy audit is impossible or impractical for the proposed project, OER may waive this requirement.

Applications must:

- a) Be completed and signed by an authorized representative of the Agricultural Operation;
- b) Include all documentation as requested within the application (see checklist).

Failure to sign the Application Form or to provide any of the materials requested may result in the disqualification of the Application.

¹ To schedule a free, no-obligation energy audit please contact National Grid at 1-800-332-3333 or visit <https://www.myngrid.com/energywise>. Be sure to identify your property as a farm.

Basic Information

Project Name:

Size of Project (kW):

Applicant Information:

Applicant Name(s):

Street Address:

Mailing Address (if different):

Phone:

Email Address:

Information about the Agricultural Operation

Name of Operation:

Owner(s) Name(s):

Legal Structure (e.g. LLC, LLP, sole proprietorship, etc.):

Physical Address:

Acreage:

Total in Production:

Owned Acreage:

Leased Acreage:

Description of Agricultural Operation

Please provide a clear description of your operation in detail, including crops and/or livestock raised.

Participation in Agricultural Development Rights Program

Does this farm have a "Deed to Development Right" (DDR)? ☐ **NO** ☐ **YES**

If YES, year DDR Recorded: _____

Name on DDR: _____

Will this project be implemented on DDR land? ☐ **NO** ☐ **YES**

Will this project require approval from the Agricultural Lands Preservation Commission?

☐ **NO** ☐ **YES** ☐ **NOT SURE**

***Note: All projects must be consistent with state policy.**

Is the proposed project involved with other State and/or Federal Funding programs?

☐ **NO** ☐ **YES**

Please check all that apply:

☐ Commerce RI Renewable Energy Fund (REF)

☐ Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE)

☐ USDA-Rural Development (REAP)

☐ Federal Investment Tax Credit (ITC)

☐ Other, please specify: _____

Project Description

Please provide a clear description of the proposed project stating how the project will impact and benefit the agricultural activities of the farm.

The turnkey contract (required) for the project was received on: _____

Potential Energy Savings Calculation

***Attach a copy of your most recent energy bill(s) to this application.**

What is the average annual energy consumption for the current operation?

What is the proposed annual average energy generation for the proposed project?

What percentage of total energy currently used by the operation will be saved by implementing the proposed renewable energy project? _____ %

An energy audit must be completed prior to receiving the final payment.

Has an Energy Audit been: ☐ **Initiated** ☐ **Completed** Date: _____

Name of Auditor: _____

***Attach copy of energy audit to this application.**

Project Economics

Total Project Cost	\$ -
Anticipated or Expected Funding— Rebates, Grants, and /or Incentives, etc.	
A. USDA-Rural Development (REAP)	\$ -
B. Commerce RI Renewable Energy Fund (REF)	\$ -
List other Funding Sources Below:	
C.	\$ -
D.	\$ -
E.	\$ -
F.	\$ -
G. Applicants Contribution to Funding (Applicants must contribute at least 10% of total project costs) (Attach supporting documentation of personal funding source(s) (e.g., bank line of credit, personal loan, secured loan, etc.)	\$ -
H. TOTAL Anticipated Funding	\$ -
I. Amount you are requesting through RI Agricultural Energy Program (\$20,000 or less)	\$ -
J. Total of Anticipated Funding with Grant	\$ -
K. Shortfall Calculation (This shortfall amount MUST be zero. Project must demonstrate potential to be fully funded in order to receive grant money from OER)	\$ -
L. Projected Average Annual Cost Savings (Attach any supporting documentation of projected annual cost savings ex. Energy audit)	\$ -
M. Simplified Payback Years Calculation	

Are you eligible for the Federal Investment Tax Credit ? (Circle):

☐ **DON'T KNOW** ☐ **NO** ☐ **YES**

Amount ITC anticipated _____

Project Execution Plan & Supporting Documentation

Agricultural Energy Program Application Form

Project Schedule:

Is this project ready to begin construction once all funding is received? ☐ **YES** ☐ **NO**

Have vendors or suppliers included scheduling and or time estimates for certain phases of your project in their quotes or proposals? ☐ **YES** ☐ **NO** ☐ **SOME**

Please provide a detailed project schedule including all relevant milestones (permits, interconnection, etc.).

Best estimate of project duration from start to finish: _____ Months

Vendors:

List of all vendors associated with this project here.

Permits:

List here all permits required for this project indicating who will be responsible for securing the permit, and the date by which the permits will be secured.

Equipment, Labor & Workmanship Warranties & Guarantees:

List here by name all equipment associated with this project and the installer for each.

Project Operation & Maintenance Requirements:

List equipment that requires scheduled maintenance and provide maintenance schedules for all equipment as per manufacturer recommendation.

***Attach copies of documentation to this application, as appropriate.**

Attestation

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By signing this application;

- I hereby attest that all statements herein are accurate and true and that I have the legal authority to enter into a binding contract with the State.
- I give permission for the Grant Committee staff to make a site visit before a funding decision is made and understand that the Office of Energy Resources will arrange any such site visit with me in advance.
- I agree that I will adhere to all applicable local laws, state laws, and permits.
- I attest that I am aware that any grant money awarded can only be dispersed to me upon proof that the project is fully funded, and upon signing a Memorandum of Understanding with the Office of Energy Resources, and that all funding is made at the sole discretion of the Office of Energy Resources and is subject to availability of program funds.
- I understand that I must provide documentation showing that all other grants or funding sources are in place and that the Total Amount for the Project requested in this grant Application has been made available to me for the project before any monies will be dispersed to me; and
- I understand that photos of my site may be taken by OER/DEM staff and that OER and DEM may use those photos at their sole discretion for purposes that include, but are not limited to, program marketing, education materials, workshops and presentations, and/or for other printed or web-based materials.

Authorized Representative Name (Printed): _____

Authorized Representative Signature: _____

Date: _____

Renewable Energy Application Checklist

Have you completed these sections of the application?

- ☐ Percentage of operation's total average annual energy savings indicated
- ☐ Simplified Payback Years calculated
- ☐ ITC eligibility information completed
- ☐ Project Schedule Summary completed
- ☐ Project duration estimate included
- ☐ Attached: Vendors— Copies of all licenses, registrations, proof of insurance, RI Contractors' Registration, Licensing Board registration, RI Renewable Energy Professional Certification, proof of registration with the RI Secretary of State's Office
- ☐ Completed Permit list
- ☐ List of equipment for the project is complete
- ☐ List of equipment requiring scheduled maintenance and maintenance schedules
- ☐ Attestation has been signed and dated

Required attachments:

- ☐ Copy of lease agreement for leased acreage
- ☐ Energy Audit or proof of scheduled audit appointment
- ☐ Contract between applicant and renewable energy installer
- ☐ Shading Analysis (which follows the REF minimum technical requirements)
- ☐ Electrical Diagram
- ☐ Specification sheets including all major project components (modules, racking, inverters, energy storage, etc.)